Allocation of additional spectrum

1340. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the issue of allocation of additional spectrum and its Broadband roll out has been deliberated at length by the TRAI and the issue has now been placed before the Group of Ministers;

(b) whether Government are aware that COAI does not want competition and desires to continue working as a cartel which is not possible with the entry of CDMA operators; and

(c) if so, how Government propose to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The TRAI recommendations include spectrum related issues for mobile and broadband services. Separately, a Group of Ministers has been constituted mainly to deal with vacation of spectrum from Defence for growth of mobile services.

(b) No Such reference has been received from COAI.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Exemption to BSNL on radio frequency

1341. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to exempt Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) on radio frequency till the policy on spectrum is finalized;

(b) if so, the reasons for such favouritism to the PSU;